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METHOD FOR HANDLING COVERT AFFAIRS IN PSB

1. Security will be a factor to be considered in organizing the work of the Board. The Board should be so constituted that a variety of people, experts in their respective fields, can be utilized without consequent disclosure to each of all facets of psychological programs in operation at a given time. Such can be accomplished by a measure of compartmentalization within each kind of program (e.g., military, political, psychological, or economic). A suggested method for handling covert operations follows:

2. Office of Plans.

Once the over-all objectives are established by the PSB, directives to the departments and agencies can be provided on an agency-by-agency basis. Thus, detailed directives for covert operations planning could be provided by the PSB Office of Plans only to CIA/OPC. When CIA/OPC plans were prepared they could be reviewed and coordinated with overt planning by this office. The directives to other agencies should indicate in a general way without disclosing operational details that certain objectives were to be attained wholly or in part by covert means so that the overt agencies could make appropriate allowances in their planning.

3. Office of Coordination.

It is contemplated that the operations of the various departments and agencies will be coordinated on both a program basis and on an area basis. The PSB coordinators under either arrangement would

have to be acquainted with all of the programs being conducted both from an area point of view and from an agency point of view. On a regional basis the CIA/OPC Division Chief should be a member of any regional committee established under the aegis of the PSB. He would thus be in a position to have full knowledge of operations being carried on by the overt agencies in a particular region. He would also be able to inform the overt agencies that covert programs existed to take care of any problems which they could not attack successfully by overt means. He would be under no compulsion to reveal the covert operations currently underway in a given area. On a functional program basis the Chief of each CIA/OPC functional Division (Psychological, Paramilitary, etc.) could participate as a member of any functional program coordinating committee established by the PSB. He would operate under the same general restraint functionally as had been indicated toward the CIA/OPC regional representatives. In the event it is essential to form some ad hoc coordinating committees for operations involving especially sensitive covert activities, the personnel comprising such committees from agencies outside of CIA would have to be especially cleared.

4. Review.

Since the Office of Review is concerned with determining whether objectives have been achieved, it will be possible to effect considerable sterilization of OPC operations in the reports furnished to the Office of Review. Also, knowledge of covert operations after the fact is usually not as sensitive from a security standpoint.